declaration as National Waterways keeping in view the recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee.

**Acquisition of letters of Mahatama Gandhi from London**

•188. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently acquired a collection of letters of Mahatama Gandhiji from London;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to exhibit these prestigious documents; and

(c) what amount has been spent by Government for acquiring these documents and which is the agency through which these collections were acquired?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The collection, commonly known as Gandhi-Polak Correspondence, mainly covering the period from 1902 to 1956, comprises letters, telegrams, notes, articles, printed material, press cuttings and photographs etc. The letters are mostly written by Gandhiji to Henry Polak, (Gandhiji's articled clerk, and later his legal partner in Johannesburg and associate in his political campaigns including India's struggle for freedom). The collection, besides containing papers relating to Gandhiji's instructions for "Satyagrah' in South Africa, also deals with the civil rights issues, including his (Gandhiji's) disappointment with General Smuts. Further, the collection also contains letters from Polak.

The collection is now in the custody of the National Archives of India, New Delhi. The work regarding arrangement and listing of the aforesaid papers is presently in progress. Thereafter, these will have to be scientifically treated and duly repaired before their xerox copies could be prepared for making them available to the scholars.

As a measure of safety, it is proposed to keep the originals, after due repairs, sparately in safe custody and the same shall flot be made ordinarily available to the scholars for consultation.

(c) Amount spent £ 154010. Acquired through the participation of our High Commission in London at a public auction held by Sotheby's London in July, 1988.

**उत्तर प्रदेश में युवा होस्टल**

*189. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस समय उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने युवा होस्टल हैं और वे किस-किस स्थान पर अवस्थित हैं;

(ख) क्या 1989-90 के दौरान उस राज्य में और अधिक युवा होस्टल बनाए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इस प्रयोजन के लिए कितनी धनराशि की स्वीकृति दी गई है?

**मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री पी० शिव शंकर):** (क) से (ग) इस समय उत्तर प्रदेश में नैनीताल और आगरा में दो छात्रावास कार्य कर रहे हैं।

सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान छः और युवा छात्रावास राज्य को सिद्धांत रूप में आवंटित किए गए हैं। लखनऊ, उत्तरकाशी और मसूरी में युवा छात्रावासों के निर्माण के लिए 55.00 लाख रुपए प्रथम किश्त के रूप में दिए गए हैं।

**International Conference on PLO**

*190. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATUR-VEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position regarding calling of an international conference on